



FISH AND GAME NEWS RELEASE

(559) 243-4005

Extension 133

THE RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
1234 EAST SHAW AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93710



W. E. Loudermilk,
Regional Manager

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14, 2005

DOVE HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

All dove hunting opportunities on State wildlife areas and Game Bird Heritage Program special hunts in the San Joaquin Valley are being provided to hunters on one combined News Release. Changes this year include: A new location for the Tranquillity hunt and an additional junior hunt at Winton. Hunters will be selected for **only one** hunt, except junior hunters, as space exists. This is to provide more hunters with the opportunity to participate in these special hunts. All hunts are free. When applying for the hunts, you must indicate if you would like to bring a guest hunter. Applications may include up to **two** hunters. See instructions under "How to Apply."

These hunts were developed in cooperation with the Department of Water Resources (DWR), U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), Kern Water Bank Authority (KWBA), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Westlands Water District (WWD), and the Southern Tulare County Sportsman Association (STCSA). Providing hunter opportunity and hunter access is a major goal of the Game Bird Heritage Program. The Game Bird Heritage hunts are made possible through the purchase of an upland game bird stamp by hunters.

Game Bird Heritage Program Special Hunts

Winton – Juniors only. This area is located approximately six miles north of Winton, adjacent to the Merced River. Fifty acres of safflower were grown by a private landowner for a special **juniors only** dove hunt. One hunt is scheduled for the afternoon of opening day (September 1), 1:00 p.m. to sunset; and two hunts are scheduled for the first Saturday of the season (September 3), one-half hour before sunrise to noon and 1:00 p.m. to sunset. These hunts can accommodate 120 hunters, 40 in the morning and 40 in the afternoon. The hunts are as follows: **Hunt A:** September 1, afternoon; **Hunt B:** September 3, morning; **Hunt C:** September 3, afternoon. For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Management section, at (559) 243-4005, extension 133.

Pilibos Wildlife Area – The Pilibos Wildlife Area is located approximately 12 miles west of Mendota adjacent to the California Aqueduct. Approximately 60 acres of safflower were grown for doves and other wildlife. Two hunts are scheduled for opening day (September 1), and two hunts on September 2: one-half hour before sunrise to noon and 1:00 p.m. to sunset. These hunts can accommodate 50 hunters each day (September 1 and September 2), 25 in the morning and 25 in the afternoon. **After September 2, the area (except for the closed zone) will be open to dove hunting. A permit is required and may be obtained at the self-registration booth located in the parking lot.** The hunts are as follows: **Hunt D:** September 1, morning; **Hunt E:** September 1, afternoon; **Hunt F:** September 2, morning; **Hunt G:** September 2, afternoon. For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Management section, at (559) 243-4005, extension 133.

Tranquillity – **This is a new area**, not the same location as used in previous years and is located approximately seven miles northwest of Tranquillity on WWD land. Forty-five acres of safflower were grown for doves and other wildlife. Two hunts are scheduled for opening day (September 1): one-half hour before sunrise to noon and 1:00 p.m. to sunset. **After opening day, the area will be open to dove hunting, and a permit will not be required.** These hunts can accommodate 40 hunters, 20 in the morning and 20 in the afternoon. The hunts are as follows: **Hunt H:** September 1, morning; **Hunt I:** September 1, afternoon. For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Management section, at (559) 243-4005, extension 133.

Huron – This area is located near Huron on land owned by the USBR and managed by the DWR. Forty-five acres of safflower were grown for doves and other wildlife. Two hunts are scheduled for opening day (September 1): one-half hour before sunrise to noon, and 1:00 p.m. to sunset. **After opening day, the entire area will be open to dove hunting, and a permit will not be required.** These hunts can accommodate 40 hunters, 20 in the morning and 20 in the afternoon. The hunts are as follows: **Hunt J:** September 1, morning; **Hunt K:** September 1, afternoon. For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Management section, at (559) 243-4005, extension 133.

(OVER)

Bakersfield – This area is located approximately 15 miles west of Bakersfield on land owned and managed by the KWBA. Approximately 45 acres of safflower were grown for doves and other wildlife. Two hunts are scheduled for opening day (September 1) and two hunts on September 2: one-half hour before sunrise to noon and 1:00 p.m. to sunset. These hunts can accommodate 70 hunters each day (September 1 and September 2), 35 in the morning and 35 in the afternoon. The hunts are as follows: **Hunt L:** September 1, morning; **Hunt M:** September 1, afternoon; **Hunt N:** September 2, morning; **Hunt O:** September 2, afternoon. **This area is not open after September 2.** For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Management section, at (559) 243-4005, extension 133.

Success Lake Wildlife Area – The Success Lake Wildlife Area is located approximately eight miles east of Porterville and consists of approximately 1,400 acres open to hunting on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' land. Approximately 110 acres of wheat were grown by the STCSA to provide feeding areas for doves. There is no hunter quota for this area, and a permit is not required. For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Management section, at (559) 243-4005, extension 133.

State Wildlife Areas

Mendota Wildlife Area will not be issuing reservations for the opening day of dove season. There may, however, be a limited number of vehicles issued parking permits for Lots #21 and #22 on opening morning only. Permits will be issued at the checking station on a first come, first served basis. The check station will only be open September 1. For the remainder of the season, hunters may obtain permits from the self-registration kiosk located at the Highway 180 entrance. For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Mendota Wildlife Area, at (559) 655-4645.

Los Banos Wildlife Area will have two designated hunt areas on opening day, September 1, with a total hunter capacity of 100. Section quotas will be filled until 12:00 p.m., after 12:00 p.m. the area will be open to free-roam hunting. The remainder of the area will be open to provide hunting for non-reservation hunters. Total capacity of the area will be 300 hunters. The area will remain open for birding, sightseeing, fishing, frogging and dog training. However, camping will be restricted to the main parking lot Wednesday, August 31. The hunt is as follows: **Hunt P:** September 1. For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Los Banos Wildlife Area, at (209) 826-0463.

Salt Slough Unit of North Grasslands Wildlife Area will be divided into three sections (northern, middle and southern sections) with reservations being issued for 150 hunters for opening day (September 1). Section selection will be made at the check station. Any space available at one-half hour before legal shoot time will be filled by non-reservations hunters. Section quotas will be filled until 12:00 p.m., after 12:00 p.m. the area will be open to free-roam hunting. The hunt is as follows: **Hunt Q:** September 1. For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Los Banos Wildlife Area, at (209) 826-0463.

O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Area, Little Panoche Reservoir, San Luis Reservoir, Dos Amigos Wildlife Area and Upper and Lower Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Areas will be open to dove hunting throughout the legal season without reservations. Sign in at the self-registration booth. The number of hunters in each area will not be regulated. For additional information, contact the Department of Fish and Game, Los Banos Wildlife Area, at (209) 826-0463.

Gadwall and Volta Wildlife Areas will be closed to all dove hunting.

HOW TO APPLY

To be eligible for the drawing, hunters must submit in writing their choice of hunts listed in order of preference. Hunters will be selected by a random computerized drawing for one hunt only. Applications may include up to two hunters applying as a party. When applying for the hunts, provide the following information for **yourself and your guest:** (1) hunt area (i.e., Huron, morning [J]), (2) name, (3) address, (4) daytime and evening telephone number, (5) 2005-2006 hunting license number and (6) if you have a mobility impairment and need special accommodations.

Hunters may only apply **once**, either as an applicant **or** as a guest for each hunt. Submitting multiple applications will disqualify you from the drawing. Please make your selection(s) **carefully**. Changes **cannot** be made after the drawing. Applications must be returned to:

San Joaquin Valley Dove Hunts
Department of Fish and Game
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710

Applications must be received by **Friday, August 5, 2005, at 5:00 p.m.** to be eligible for the drawing. **Only successful applicants will be notified** and supplied with additional information about their hunt. Hunters under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older). An upland game bird stamp is required of all hunters, **except** junior license holders.

Application attached.

This information and application can be found by visiting the Department's web page at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

Application for 2005 San Joaquin Valley Dove Hunts

Please Print Clearly

All areas must be completed (including guest area if bringing guest)
Incomplete Applications Will Be Rejected

Name

Last

M. I.

First

(Mr., Mrs., Jr, etc.)

Hunting License

No.

- ☐ Check here if Junior hunter
☐ Check here if Lifetime License

Address

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone

Daytime

Extension

Evening

Guest Name (Adult or Junior Hunter Only)

Last

M. I.

First

(Mr., Mrs., Jr, etc.)

Hunting License

No.

- ☐ Check here if Junior hunter
☐ Check here if Lifetime License

Address

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone

Daytime

Extension

Evening



Selection Instructions:

Select your hunts in order of preference, beginning with your first choice, by entering the corresponding hunt letter in box 1 as your first choice. An application may include up to seventeen hunts.

1	2	3	4	5	6
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
7	8	9	10	11	12
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
13	14	15	16	17	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

- A Winton: afternoon (September 1) (**Junior only**)
- B Winton: morning (September 3) (**Junior only**)
- C Winton: afternoon (September 3) (**Junior only**)
- D Pilibos Wildlife Area: morning (September 1)
- E Pilibos Wildlife Area: afternoon (September 1)
- F Pilibos Wildlife Area: morning (September 2)
- G Pilibos Wildlife Area: afternoon (September 2)
- H Tranquillity: morning
- I Tranquillity: afternoon
- J Huron: morning
- K Huron: afternoon
- L Bakersfield: morning (September 1)
- M Bakersfield: afternoon (September 1)
- N Bakersfield: morning (September 2)
- O Bakersfield: afternoon (September 2)
- P Los Banos Wildlife Area: morning
- Q Salt Slough Wildlife Area: morning

Return or mail this application to:
San Joaquin Valley Dove Hunts
Department of Fish and Game
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710

or fax:

(559) 243-4022

****Applications must be received by Friday, August 5, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. to be eligible for the drawing.****



Please check this box if you have mobility impairments and need special accommodations.